

Message Text

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64

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02

RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 COME-00 INT-05 IO-10 /054 W

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R 022139Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8729

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

USCINCSO

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

UNCLAS TEGUCIGALPA 5160

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, HO

SUBJ: IMPROMPTU PRESS CONFERENCE OF CHIEF OF STATE LOPEZ

1. DURING AN IMPROMPTU PRESS CONFERENCE FOLLOWING THE INAUGURATION OF 50 HEALTH CENTERS ON NOVEMBER 30, CHIEF OF STATE GENERAL OSWALDO LOPEZ MADE THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS:

A. THE GOH IS NOT OPPOSED TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR;

B. THE AGRARIAN REFORM LAW WILL NOT BE ISSUED ON DECEMBER 4 (THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF THE REGIME) BUT "POSSIBLY BETWEEN DECEMBER 20 AND DECEMBER 22". LOPEZ ACKNOWLEDGED PRESSURE ON THE GOH BY THE WORKERS AND CAMPESINOS FOR ACTION ON AGRARIAN REFORM;

C. LOPEZ WILL ATTEND THE LABOR-CAMPESINO DEMONSTRATION SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 15 IN SAN PEDRO SULA;

D. THE NEW MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC WORKS WILL BE NAMED IN JANUARY;

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E. CONSIDERABLE WORK HAS GONE INTO PREPARATIONS FOR THE

DECEMBER 6-7 MEETING OF GOVERNMENTS AND INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES CONCERNING RECONSTRUCTION. HE EXPECTS AID FROM THESE GOVERNMENTS AND AGENCIES BUT CAUTIONS THAT THIS AID WILL COME IN THE FORM OF LOANS RATHER THAN GRANTS;

F. THERE IS NO PROGRESS AT THIS TIME IN THE BORDER DISPUTE WITH EL SALVADOR;

G. THERE IS NOT ANY TAX REFORM CURRENTLY BEING CONSIDERED BY THE GOH;

H. LOPEZ WILL ATTEND A MEETING OF CENTRAL AMERICAN PRESIDENTS WITH VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT CARLOS PEREZ IN CARACAS IN DECEMBER 13. THERE IS NO SET AGENDA FOR THE MEETING.
SOWASH

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